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Note verbale dated 18 April 2001 from the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit to him herewith a statement by an official source at the Foreign Ministry of the State of Qatar, in its capacity as the current Chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, of 16 April 2001, concerning the aggression launched by the Israeli forces against the sovereignty of the Lebanese territories and the missile strike on Syrian radar installations inside Lebanon, on the morning of 16 April 2001 (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 40, and the Security Council.

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Annex to the note verbale dated 18 April 2001 from the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

An official source at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Qatar stated that Qatar, in its capacity as the current Chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, has expressed its condemnation and censure of the violation of Lebanese sovereignty by Israeli aircraft and their bombardment of Syrian radar installations in the Dahr al-Baydar locality in Lebanon.

The official source at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, speaking to the Qatar News Agency, added that this aggression constituted a grave escalation and would again plunge the region into a maelstrom of violence, in blatant defiance of the resolutions that embody international legitimacy and of the principles of international law and that Israel bore the responsibility for the grave results ensuing therefrom.

The official source called upon the international community and, in particular, the sponsors of the peace process to take immediate and effective action to halt these grave Israeli attacks and practices and to create circumstances favourable to the resumption of the peace process in the Middle East on all tracks, from the point at which it halted, in accordance with the principles and foundations on which the peace process is based, in particular Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and the principle of "land for peace".

In concluding his statement, the official source affirmed that Qatar and the States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference stand with Syria, Lebanon and the Palestinian people in their just struggle for the restoration of their legitimate rights in accordance with the resolutions that embody international legitimacy.